

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add Abstract of Disclosure as follows:

A B S T R A C T

A method for forming a hydrophobic coating on the surface of a substrate comprising linking particulate material by polymer strands and cross-linking at least some of the polymer strands. The invention further relates to hydrophobic coatings comprising particles of a particulate material linked together and to a surface by polymer strands, wherein some of the polymer strands are cross-linked. The method of the invention can be used to form superhydrophobic coatings.